

LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA
NINETY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE
FIRST SESSION

LEGISLATIVE BILL 183

Introduced by Janssen, 15; Cudaback, 36; Schimek, 27; Schrock, 38

Read first time January 4, 2001

Committee: Government, Military and Veterans Affairs

A BILL

- 1 FOR AN ACT relating to local governments; to amend section 13-2203,
- 2 Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska; to authorize
- 3 expenditures for funeral memorials; and to repeal the
- 4 original section.
- 5 Be it enacted by the people of the State of Nebraska,

1 Section 1. Section 13-2203, Reissue Revised Statutes of
2 Nebraska, is amended to read:

3 13-2203. In addition to other expenditures authorized by
4 law, each governing body may approve:

5 (1)(a) The expenditure of public funds for the payment or
6 reimbursement of actual and necessary expenses incurred by elected
7 and appointed officials, employees, or volunteers at educational
8 workshops, conferences, training programs, official functions,
9 hearings, or meetings, whether incurred within or outside the
10 boundaries of the local government, if the governing body gave
11 prior approval for participation or attendance at the event and for
12 payment or reimbursement either by the formal adoption of a uniform
13 policy or by a formal vote of the governing body. Authorized
14 expenses may include:

15 (i) Registration costs, tuition costs, fees, or charges;

16 (ii) Mileage at the rate allowed by section 81-1176 or
17 actual travel expense if travel is authorized by commercial or
18 charter means; and

19 (iii) Meals and lodging at a rate not exceeding the
20 applicable federal rate unless a fully itemized claim is submitted
21 substantiating the costs actually incurred in excess of such rate
22 and such additional expenses are expressly approved by the
23 governing body; and

24 (b) Authorized expenditures shall not include
25 expenditures for meals of paid members of a governing body provided
26 while such members are attending a public meeting of the governing
27 body unless such meeting is a joint public meeting with one or more
28 other governing bodies;

1 (2) The expenditure of public funds for:

2 (a) Nonalcoholic beverages provided to individuals
3 attending public meetings of the governing body; and

4 (b) Nonalcoholic beverages and meals:

5 (i) Provided for any individuals while performing or
6 immediately after performing relief, assistance, or support
7 activities in emergency situations, including, but not limited to,
8 tornado, severe storm, fire, or accident;

9 (ii) Provided for any volunteers during or immediately
10 following their participation in any activity approved by the
11 governing body, including, but not limited to, mowing parks,
12 picking up litter, removing graffiti, or snow removal; or

13 (iii) Provided at one recognition dinner each year held
14 for elected and appointed officials, employees, or volunteers of
15 the local government. The maximum cost per person for such dinner
16 shall be established by formal action of the governing body, but
17 shall not exceed twenty-five dollars. An annual recognition dinner
18 may be held separately for employees of each department or
19 separately for volunteers, or any of them in combination, if
20 authorized by the governing body; and

21 (3) The expenditure of public funds for (a) plaques,
22 certificates of achievement, or items of value awarded to elected
23 or appointed officials, employees, or volunteers, including persons
24 serving on local government boards or commissions and (b) for
25 flowers or other appropriate memorial provided at the funeral of an
26 elected or appointed official, a former elected or appointed
27 official, an employee, or a former employee in recognition of
28 service to the local government. Before making any such

1 expenditure, the governing body shall, by official action after a
2 public hearing, establish a uniform policy which sets a dollar
3 limit on the value of any plaque, certificate of achievement, or
4 item of value to be awarded or the memorial to be provided. Such
5 policy, following its initial adoption, shall not be amended or
6 altered more than once in any twelve-month period.

7 Sec. 2. Original section 13-2203, Reissue Revised
8 Statutes of Nebraska, is repealed.